Construction of bridge near Azamgarh

†294. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Railways have conducted a survey to construct bridge over the Belaisa Crossing near Azamgarh Railway Station at Azamgarh district of U.P.; and

(b) if so, by when the construction work thereof is likely to be started on the basis of the survey report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) and (b) The list of level crossings in Uttar Pradesh State which qualify for replacement by Road Over Bridges/Road Under Bridges on cost sharing basis has been made available to the State Government to sponsor proposals for construction of Road over/under bridges *in lieu* thereof. The level crossing at Belaisa is one of them having traffic density of 126583 Traffic Vehicle Units (TVUs). Requisite proposal from the State Government has not yet been received for replacemerit of this level crossing by Road over/under Bridge.

Vacancies in the Railways

295. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railways propose to Till up about 8000 vacancies in the next two years;

(b) if so, the details of vacancies that are going to be filled in Group A, B, C & D Grades;

(c) the details of vacancies to be filled in the next two years, zone-wise; and

(d) the details of reserved vacancies out of the above, zone-wise?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (d) Occurrence and filling up of vacancies being a continuous process the position regarding the number of vacancies keeps changing from month to month. However, as on 01.09.2004 there were 78,638 vacancies as against the sanctioned strength of 6,30,706 in Safety Categories in Group 'C' and 'D' on the Railways constituting 12.47% of the total sanctioned strength in these categories. Railways have been directed to fill up these vacancies as also the vacancies in security and operational categories either by direct recruitment from open market or promotion from amongst serving staff, as the case may be by the year 2006.

Vacancies in Group 'B' and Group 'A' are also filled as per prescribed standing procedure.

Prescribed percentage of reservation will continue to apply in filling up of these vacancies.

Connecting Hajira Port to Hinterland

296. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI:

PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) looking at industrial growth of the area around Hajira Port, whether the Ministry of Railways propose to connect Hajira Port to its hinterland;

(b) whether Government propose to extend the siding track of KRIBHCO up to Hajira; and

(c) if so, the proposed time-frame for completion of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) The proposed connection to Hajira Port is a part of National Rail Vikas Yojana.

(b) As per the techno-economie feasibility survey, the new line is proposed parallel to the existing KRIBHCO siding.